

family: his wife, Bobbie Nail; his daughter, Jackie Solty; his son, Randy Ketchum; his stepson, Dr. Roger Nail; his stepdaughter, Patricia Stokes; his brother, two grandchildren and five step grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. PHIL
AND CHARLOTTE PETERSON

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a great privilege to pay tribute to Phil and Charlotte Peterson, who will be feted by hordes of friends and admirers this Sunday, March 26, 2000, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at historic Miami Shores Country Club. If there was ever a dynamic duo that genuinely enhances the good name and stellar reputation of a particular community, then Phil and Charlotte would admirably fit that billing.

Phil Sheridan Peterson, Jr. was born in Sturgeon Bay, WI and comes from a very distinguished lineage. Named after his grandfather, the legendary General Philip Sheridan, Phil faithfully upholds to this very day the tradition of duty to country and honor to God that buttressed the much-heralded exploits of his granddad. Growing up during the Depression era and losing his mother at the tender age of three, Phil had to quickly become the steady hand and exemplar to three other younger siblings, a sister and two brothers.

His wife Charlotte, on the other hand, was delicately schooled in the appreciation of music and the arts. As fate would have it, she met Phil when she was barely 12 years old, while picking cherries to contribute to her family's sustenance at a Wisconsin orchard managed by him. It was indeed love at first sight, and as she is wont to say: " * * * from that day on, I've been working for him ever since."

As World War II unleashed its fury, young Phil, then a fresh high school graduate, unhesitatingly responded to his country's call to duty and joined the U.S. Navy. His tour of service sent him to the Baltic Sea where he soon braved numerous air raids, sea battles and killer storms that wrecked havoc on his fleet ships, tragically claiming the lives of some 1,200 brave Americans. Having survived the war's harrowing ordeals, Phil Peterson returned home a much-decorated hero and thereby earned his rightful niche in the annals of the greatest generation of Americans who ever lived.

Upon his discharge from the U.S. Navy, Phil went back to school to finish his education at the University of Wisconsin where he became an extraordinary feature on the school's football and wrestling team. During this time Charlotte was also at the end of getting her college degree. Upon graduation from college, Phil and Charlotte got married on December 27, 1947. Through this union they were blessed with five wonderful children, who are now themselves successful and productive adult members of society.

While they managed to get back and tend to the family Peterson orchard farm in Wisconsin, their adventurous spirit soon propelled their relocation in Florida's Key West, finally settling down in what was then called Miami's model community of "Liberty City." Working as entre-

preneurs for the first Harley Davidson's motorcycle franchise in South Florida, Phil and Charlotte found time to immerse themselves in key leadership positions helping several civic organizations, such as the American Red Cross, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Easter Seals, the Covenant House, Toys for Underprivileged Children, St. Jude's and Miami Children's Hospital, Shelters for Abused Women, Miami Rescue Mission, Ronald McDonald House, Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Florida Motorcycles Dealers Association, the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and many local schools.

Phil & Charlotte Peterson truly epitomize the preeminence of ordinary and decent folks who have tried to do their level best toward contributing to the amelioration of their community and the welfare of their fellow human beings. Indeed, we have tremendously benefitted from their unique brand of tireless commitment and generosity.

In fact, Phil's first-hand experience, thorough knowledge and solid reputation at Harley Davidson motivated him to address the varied issues and complex problems surrounding America's burgeoning motorcycle business. Accordingly, his compelling testimonies before the U.S. Congress paved the way for shedding light on the devious schemes of fast-buck entrepreneurs who were illegally dumping foreign-made substandard motorcycles in the American market. His expert observations subsequently led to the adoption of important pieces of initiatives that have now become our nation's laws in this area.

In their own quiet but dignified way, Phil & Charlotte Peterson have been and continue to be our community's consummate activists. They genuinely abide by the dictum that those who have less in life, through no fault of their own, deserve the help of community leaders to help them get back up and lead normal, productive lives. Friends and admirers are oftentimes touched by their unique sincerity and selfless giving. The numerous accolades from various organizations represent an unequivocal testimony of the utmost respect and admiration they both enjoy from our community.

Their word is their bond to those who have dealt with them not only in their moments of triumphal exuberance, but also in their quest to help us transform our community into the kind of a caring neighborhood where the young and the old, the rich and the poor, the mighty and the humble converge together to hasten the emergence of the spirit and optimism that nobly represent the true character of America.

I am deeply honored to extend my best wishes and utmost gratitude to Phil & Charlotte Peterson for what they have done to our community. They truly exemplify a genuine leadership whose courage and kindheartedness appeal to our noblest character as a nation.

OIL PRICE REDUCTION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3822) to reduce, suspend, or terminate any assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to each country determined by the President to be engaged in oil price fixing to the detriment of the United States economy, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Chairman, I am an original cosponsor of the Oil Price Reduction Act. We simply must take some common sense steps to reduce the price of gas. In my district, which normally has some of the highest gas prices in the country, gas now costs over \$2 per gallon. My constituents are hurting and need help.

In its original form, H.R. 3822 would have allowed the Administration to halt arms sales to countries that are gouging American consumers by raising oil prices. But the House leadership has weakened the bill and now it only counsels diplomacy.

I'm all for diplomacy and have encouraged the Administration to forcefully engage all the OPEC countries about this issue. But diplomacy has its limits. Simply put, this country should seriously reexamine our policy of selling arms to countries that seek to gouge American consumers and hurt our economy.

And to add insult to injury, these are some of the same countries that American men and women risked their lives for in the Persian Gulf war. Today, thousands of dedicated soldiers, sailors, airmen and women continue putting their lives on the line to keep Saddam at bay and these countries safe.

I will vote for this bill, but we need to take a much firmer stance with the OPEC nations. For example, while the original bill would allow the administration to restrict arms sales, I might have gone further and required that arm sales be halted. Amendments to that effect won't be allowed in today's debate.

In addition, I am very disappointed that the House is not going to be voting on other key issues to address high gas prices.

I believe we should stop exporting Alaskan oil to foreign countries and I have cosponsored legislation to do that. While our gas prices have doubled over the last year, we send 60,000 barrels of oil a day to Asia. If not exported, this oil would go to the west coast. We should be voting to halt those exports and give American families the benefit of American oil.

We should also consider proposals to swap oil out of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Making available oil from the SPR could offset the shortages produced by the OPEC countries production cuts. This would weaken OPEC's ability to unilaterally raise our gas prices.

Finally, we should be aggressively developing renewable energy sources and alternative fuels. This would reduce our reliance on foreign fuels, while at the same time helping to preserve our environment.

But we must also make sure we don't do certain things that would not lower the price of gas, but would reduce safety on our roads and threaten the Central Coast economy and environment.

For example, some have advocated getting rid of the 4.3 cents federal gas tax. That won't help consumers who have seen a gallon of gas double in price. And it would cost California alone over \$1.7 billion over the next 2 years in funds to build and maintain our roads and bridges. This funding has provided for the